

STATEMENT OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A hose-end sprayer assembly for connection to a container of liquid product, comprising: a housing having a carrier liquid inlet passage, a liquid product inlet opening and a discharge passage; a rotary valve mounted within a transverse bore of said housing and comprising a liquid duct and a product duct opening into said liquid duct; the rotary valve being selectively rotatable within said transverse bore for interconnecting said carrier liquid inlet passage and said liquid product inlet opening with said discharge passage in a first selective rotative position of the rotary valve; the housing having a means, external to said transverse bore, for defining a vent path between the interior of the container and atmosphere in the first rotative position; and closing means, external to said housing and to said rotary valve, that is pivotable about a member disposed external to said rotary valve in response to rotation of said rotary valve for closing the vent path in a second selective rotative position of the rotary valve wherein the carrier liquid inlet passage is out of communication with the discharge passage; wherein said closing means comprises a movable external vent plug assembly and said rotary valve engages said vent plug assembly for closing the vent path in the second rotative position of the valve.

2. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein said means for defining said vent path comprises a vent port.

3 - 4 (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein said vent plug assembly comprises a vent plug seal movable with the vent plug assembly into and out of the vent path.
6. (currently amended) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein the vent plug assembly includes a rocker arm having a vent plug seal, the rocker arm being pivotally mounted to the housing for movement of the vent plug seal into the vent path in the second rotative position.
7. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein said closing means comprises a rocker arm pivotally mounted to the housing, the rotary valve engaging the rocker arm for moving a vent plug seal on the arm into and out of the vent path respectively in the second and first rotative positions of the rotary valve.
8. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 7, wherein said means for defining said vent path comprises a vent port which is opened and closed upon pivoted movement of the rocker arm.
9. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein the rotary valve has a handle for rotation thereof, the closing means comprising a vent plug assembly pivotally mounted externally to the housing, the handle of the rotary valve engaging the vent plug assembly for pivoting the vent plug assembly into and out of the vent path respectively in the second and first rotative positions of the rotary valve.
10. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 9, wherein the vent plug assembly includes a rocker arm and a vent plug seal, the handle of the rotary valve

engaging the rocker arm for pivoting the rocker arm and moving the vent plug seal into and out of the vent path.

11. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 2, wherein said closing means comprises a rocker arm pivotally mounted externally to the housing, an extension on the rotary valve engaging the rocker arm for movement of a vent plug seal on the rocker arm into and out of the vent port respectively in the second and first rotative positions of the rotary valve.

12. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 1, wherein the member comprises a radially extending portion of the housing that interfaces to said closing means to provide for the pivotal movement thereof.

13. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 7, wherein the vent plug seal is located near one end of the rocker arm, and cam means is located near an opposite end of the rocker arm for engagement by the rotary valve in the first rotative position thereof.

14. (original) The sprayer assembly according to claim 7, wherein the housing has a radially extending pivot pin engaged by the rocker arm to facilitate pivotal movement thereof.

15. (original) The sprayer assembly according to claim 14, wherein the rocker arm is movably mounted to the housing on the pivot pin to facilitate the pivotal movement thereof.

16. (currently amended) A sprayer assembly for connection to a container of liquid chemical to be sprayed, comprising: a housing having a carrier liquid inlet passage, a chemical liquid inlet passage and a discharge passage; a rotary valve mounted within said housing having a carrier liquid duct and a product duct opening into said carrier liquid duct; said rotary valve being selectively rotatable about a rotational axis to an ON position in which the carrier liquid inlet passage is connected with said chemical liquid inlet passage, and the rotary valve being selectively rotatable about the rotational axis to an OFF position in which the carrier liquid inlet passage is not connected with said chemical liquid inlet passage; the housing having a vent port for communication with the container; vent control means, mounted externally on the housing, for pivoting movement about a member offset from the rotational axis of the rotary valve in response to rotation of the rotary valve to close the vent port in the OFF position and to open the vent port in the ON position; wherein said vent control means comprises a rocker arm having a vent plug for opening and closing the vent port.

17. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 16, wherein said vent control means comprises a vent plug assembly having a vent plug for opening and closing the vent port.

18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) The sprayer assembly according to claim ~~16~~ 18, wherein said rocker arm has a cam surface engageable by the rotary valve to effect rocker arm pivoting movement.

20. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 16, wherein the rotary valve has a turning handle in engagement with the vent control means to effect pivoting movement thereof upon valve rotation.

21. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 19, wherein the rotary valve has a turning handle in engagement with the cam surface to effect pivoting movement of the rocker arm.

22. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 16, wherein the rotary valve has an external protrusion which engages the vent control means to effect the pivoting movement thereof.

23. (currently amended) The sprayer assembly according to claim 16 ~~48~~, wherein the rotary valve has an external protrusion which engages the rocker arm to effect the pivoting movement thereof.

24. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 19, wherein the rotary valve has means defining a cam follower in engagement with said cam surface for moving the rocker arm to the vent open position.

25. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 19, wherein the member comprises a radially extending portion of the housing that interfaces to the rocker arm to provide for the pivotal movement thereof.

26. (previously presented) The sprayer assembly according to claim 25, wherein the member comprises a pivot pin engaged by the rocker arm to facilitate pivotal movement thereof.